

Docket Number: 16356.662 (DC-03303)

Customer No. 000027683

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

Merkin, Cynthia M., et al.

Serial No.:

09/977,777

Filed:

October 15, 2001

For: COMPUTER SYSTEM WARRANTY **UPGRADE METHOD AND APPARATUS** WITH CONFIGURATION CHANGE **DETECTION FEATURE**

Box Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner For Patents Washington, DC 20231

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Group Art Unit: 2167

Examiner:

Unassigned

RECEIVED MAY 0 7 2003 **GROUP 3600**

TRANSMITTAL

Prior to examination, enclosed are the following regarding the above-identified patent application:

- 1. Preliminary Amendment;
- 2. Return postcard; and
- 3. Transmittal letter (in duplicate).

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees associated with any of the papers submitted herewith to Deposit Account No. 08-1394.

Respectfully submitted,

Registration No. 26,528

Dated: HAYNES AND BOONE. LLP 901 Main Street, Suite 3100 Dallas, Texas 75202-3789 Telephone: 512/867-8407

Facsimile: 512/867-8470

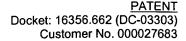
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hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Non-Fee Amendment **Commissioner For Patents** Washington, DC 20231

Note: This Preliminary Amendment has been submitted in a format proposed in a Pre-OG Notice, dated January 31, 2003, signed by Steven Kunin, Deputy Commissioner for Patent Examination Policy. More information about this format can be found at http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/dapp/opla/preognotice/revamdtprac.htm.

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Minor changes have been made to the specification. Claims 1, 2, 12, 28 and 29 are amended and claims 1-31 remain in the application.